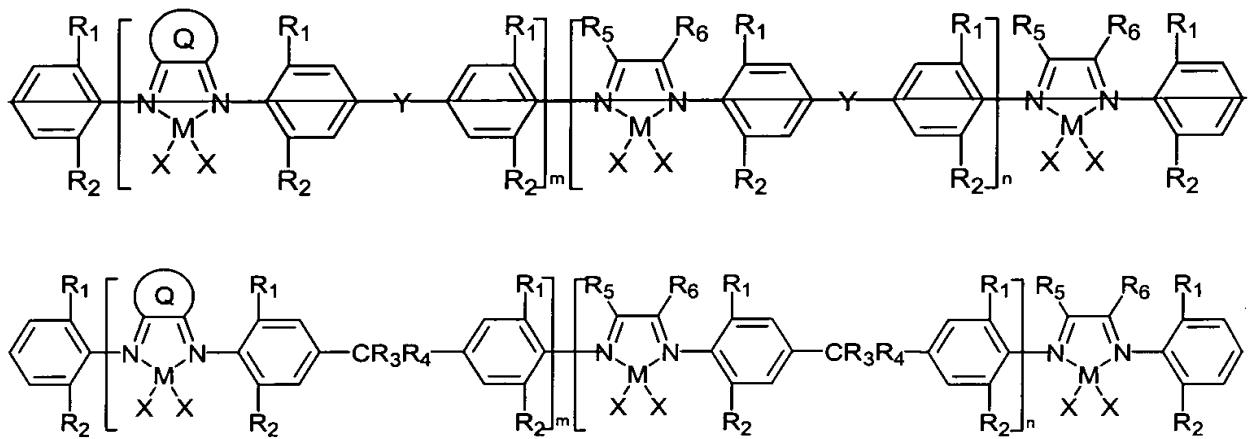


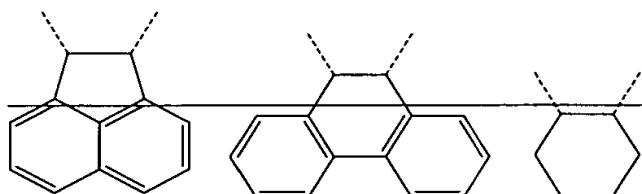
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite pending claims 1-10 (claim 11 having been withdrawn as being directed to non-elected subject matter) as follows:

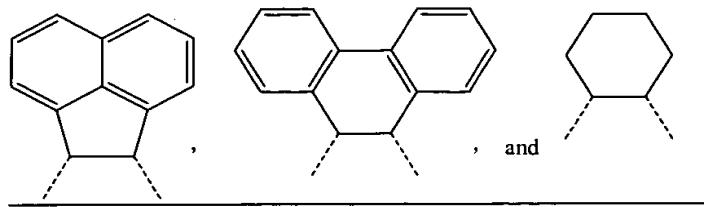
1. (Currently Amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex represented by the following formula:



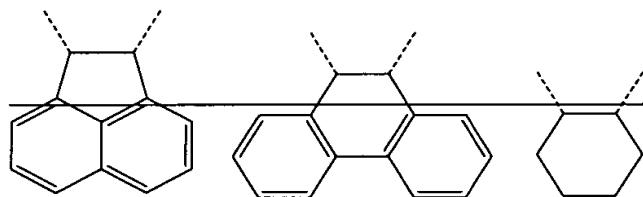
wherein M is Ni; X is Cl or Br; each of m and n is independently an integer from 0 to 100, and n is an integer from 0 to 100; wherein at least one of m and n is not 0, respectively; R_1 and R_2 are the same or different, and are selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl and tert-butyl; Y is CR_3R_4 , wherein R_3 and R_4 are the same or different, and are selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and phenyl, or R_3 and R_4 forming form a cyclic alkyl group; R_5 and R_6 are the same or different, and is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl and a heterocyclic group; Q is a cyclic divalent residual group of the following formula or a mixture thereof:



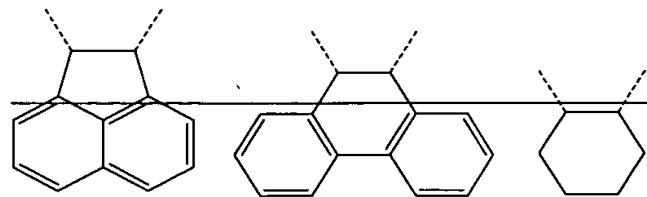
and each Q is independently.



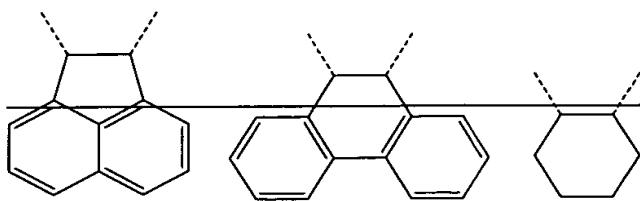
2. (Currently Amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1, wherein, ~~M is Ni; X is Cl or Br; m is an integer from 1 to 100, and n is 0; R₁ and R₂ is the same or different, and is selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl and tert butyl; Y is CR₃R₄, wherein R₃ and R₄ is the same or different and is selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and phenyl, or R₃ and R₄ forming a cyclic alkyl group; Q is a cyclic divalent residual group of the following formula or a mixture thereof:~~



3. (Currently Amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1, wherein, X is Br; m is an integer from 1 to 20, n is 0; R₁ is isopropyl, R₂ is methyl or isopropyl; Y is CR₃R₄, wherein ~~and~~ R₃ and R₄ is ~~are~~ the same and ~~is~~ are H or methyl, or R₃ and R₄ forming ~~form~~ a cyclohexyl group; Q is a cyclic divalent residual group of the following formula or a mixture thereof:



4. A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein, ~~X is Br; m is an integer from 1 to 10, n is 0; R₁ is isopropyl, R₂ is methyl or isopropyl; Y is CR₃R₄; wherein R₃ and R₄ is the same and is H or methyl, or R₃ and R₄ forming a cyclohexyl group; Q is a cyclic divalent residual group of the following formula:~~

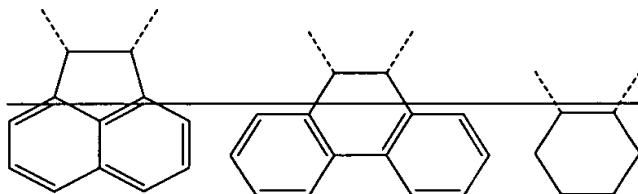


5. (Currently Amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1, wherein, ~~M is Ni; X is Cl or Br; m is 0, and n is an integer from 1 to 100; R₁ and R₂ is the same or different and is selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, isopropyl and tert butyl; Y is CR₃R₄, wherein R₃ and R₄ is the same or different and is selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl and phenyl, or R₃ and R₄ forming a cyclic alkyl group; R₅ and R₆ is the same or different and is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, isopropyl and heterocyclic group.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1, wherein, X is Br; m is 0, n is an integer from 1 to 30; R₁ is isopropyl, R₂ is methyl or isopropyl; ~~Y is CR₃R₄, where R₃ and R₄ is are the same, and is are H or methyl, or, R₃ and R₄ forming form a cyclohexyl group; and R₅ and R₆ is are methyl.~~

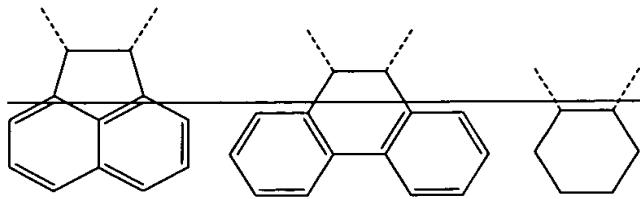
7. (Currently Amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1, wherein, X is Br; m is 0, n is an integer from 1 to 20; R₁ and R₂ is are isopropyl; ~~Y is CR₃R₄, where R₃ and R₄ is are the same, and is are H or methyl; and R₅ and R₆ is are methyl.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1, wherein, X is Br; m is an integer from 1 to 10, n is an integer from 1 to 20; R₁ is isopropyl, R₂ is methyl or isopropyl; ~~Y is CR₃R₄, where R₃ and R₄ is are the same, and is are H or methyl, or R₃ and R₄ forming form a cyclohexyl group; and R₅ and R₆ is are methyl, ; Q is a cyclic divalent residual group of the following formula:~~



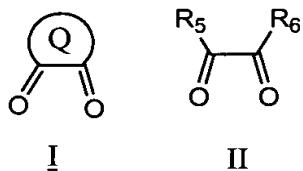
9. (Currently Amended) A polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1, wherein, X is Br; m is an integer from 1 to 10, n is an integer from 1 to 20; R₁ and R₂ is are

methyl; Y is CR_3R_4 , where R_3 and R_4 are the same, and are H or methyl; and R_5 and R_6 are methyl; Q is a cyclic divalent residual group of the following formula:

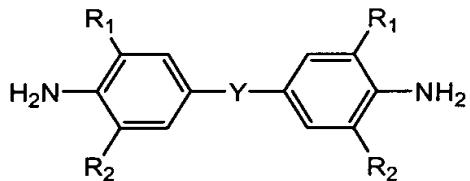


10. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of the polynuclear α -diimine Ni(II) complex of claim 1, comprising the steps of:

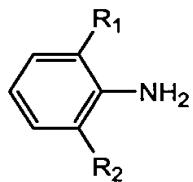
(a) condensing an α -diketone represented by the formula I, II or a mixture thereof,



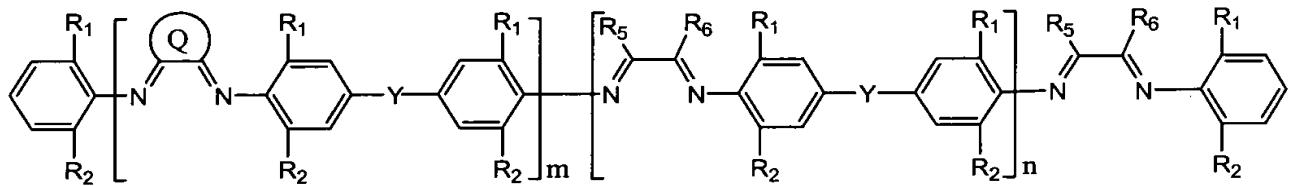
wherein, Q , R_5 and R_6 have the same definition in claim 1, a substituted aromatic diamine represented by the formula



wherein, R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and Y R_4 are as defined in claim 1, and a substituted aromatic amine represented by the formula

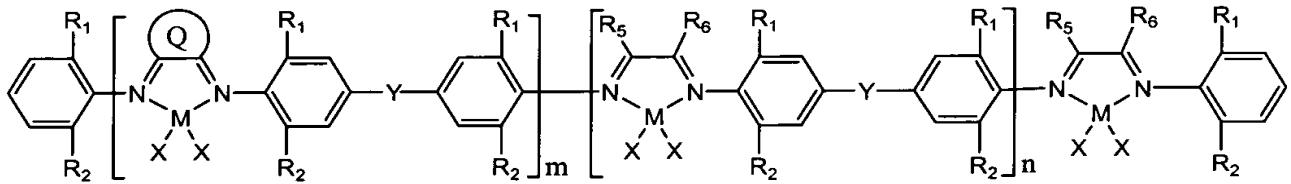


wherein, R_1 and R_2 are as defined in claim 1, in a medium of alcohol, aromatic hydrocarbon, alcohol-ether mixture, or alcohol-halogenated hydrocarbon mixture and under the catalytic action of HCOOH , CF_3COOH , HF , HCl , HBr , or HI or HX , wherein X is F , Cl , Br , or I ; thereby obtaining an oligomer of substituted α -diimine of the formula



wherein, R_1 , R_2 , R_5 , R_6 , Q , Y , m and n have the same definition in claim 1;

(b) carrying out coordination reaction of the oligomer of step (a) with NiX_2 , wherein X is Cl^- or Br^- , in the absence of water and oxygen, thereby obtaining a polynuclear α -diimino Ni(II) complex of the following formula:



wherein, R_1 , R_2 , R_5 , R_6 , Q , Y , M , X , m and n have the same definition are as defined in claim 1.

11. (Withdrawn)